

Annual Report

Blacksburg Fire Department July 01, 2003 thru June 30, 2004

The Blacksburg Fire Department's Mission is to protect life, environment, and property in the Town of Blacksburg, Virginia Tech, and the area's of Montgomery County surrounding the town. We strive to provide excellence in such services as Public Fire Education, Inspections, Fire Prevention, Fire Suppression, and Hazardous Materials Containment.

Fire Department responded to 1009 incidents:

**40% Town = 407 Calls
13% County = 128 Calls
46% VPI = 464 Calls**

Overall Average Response Time: 4.55 Min.

Estimated Fire Loss: \$815,430

Total Miles Driven: 46,936

Burn Permits issued: 39 yes, 6 no

Training Hours: 60 per member

Total Incident Man Hours: 2802



The Blacksburg Fire Department continues to operate as a volunteer organization with 40 active members and one full time Fire Code Official. Response times have remained very good with times of less than five minutes to VA Tech and within corporate limits of Blacksburg.

Licensed Day Care facilities, public schools and elderly living facilities continue to be inspected annually by the fire code official. There were seventy-six fire code inspections. Plans review of fire protection systems in new and remodeled buildings are being done to assist the building Official and to inform the firefighters for pre-fire planning. Our fire officers, for pre-fire planning, toured seventeen buildings on the VA Tech Campus.

Training our members is always a priority. This includes confined space training, extrication, trench rescue, high angle rope rescue, hazardous materials, simulated fires in structures, natural gas safety, mayday firefighter down, Life Guard 10 helicopter procedures, rapid intervention team training, pump and vehicle operations, fire prevention, code enforcement, poison control, live fire training and heavy tactical rescue.



The fire department installed 23 smoke detectors obtained through a grant from the Virginia Department of Health. Request letters were sent home with Montgomery County school children in Blacksburg and all returned requests for smoke detectors were installed by the fire department.

The Risk Watch injury prevention program is available in all Montgomery County Schools for grades kindergarten through eighth grade.

Fire prevention presentations were given to 19 adult groups, 21 public fire education classes were given at Blacksburg fire stations, Safety House was used at 12 schools and festivals and there were 33 school, daycare and summer camp visits.